

WOMEN WRITE OF LIFE OF VICE

Suggestions in Hundreds of
Letters to Wagner Com-
mittee.

FRANK ON SOCIAL EVIL

Appeal for a Solution That
Will Help the Un-
fortunate.

TELL OF POLICE GRAFT

Unusual Correspondence Has
Greatly Impressed the Leg-
islators at Albany.

ALBANY, March 20.—The Wagner committee on remedial police legislation made public to-day a few of the hundreds of letters received from women of the street urging that something be done to save them from the police and to lead them to reform.

The committee has tried to sort the letters from women who sincerely believed they were making suggestions which would help the committee from those who apparently were seeking notoriety. Names and addresses were not made public, although many of the writers did not object to this being done if the committee felt any good would be accomplished.

The letters have made a deep impression on the committee and they will be considered before a report is made.

Many of the women urge that the control and regulation of this form of vice be taken away from the police, who find it a most profitable source of graft. Some are in favor of segregation.

Others plead for a welfare society commission, saying that they will aid the commission in every way. These women hold that the way to reform is to give the women a chance by lending a helping hand. One woman wrote:

Mayor Had Right Idea.

"The Police Commissioner to-day claims that there is no graft now. Perhaps not, but how long will that last? In a few months things will be just as they always have been. Mayor Gaynor had the right idea about that when he forbade all plain clothes men to get evidence against any disorderly house. That was the only time in the history of New York we did not pay graft."

"If we were protected by the city, instead of persecuted and oppressed and driven and hunted from pillar to post, we would be of great help to the city by protecting the young women from the procurer and convict every one of them by a simple process of informing this committee. Should a cadet bring a girl to our houses to be sold or to collect her earnings we will pledge ourselves to help prosecute and convict any white slave who comes here, because the girl he holds in slavery will not appear against him. It is only through us and in cooperation with us that you will accomplish this."

"Another thing I might suggest to you if we have this committee is, should a young girl come to us with the intention of leading that life our observations tell us she is a novice, we could again communicate with this commission (social welfare), and thus save her from going any further by taking care of her and persuading her and giving her a little purse, which we have done so many times, and send her home to her parents without publicity and before it is too late, and not to prison."

A Segregation Argument.

This one is from a woman in favor of segregation:

"Some years back the fallen women of this city practically segregated themselves, as they are willing to do to-day; but elimination and vice societies under the pretext of cleaning up the city by driving them out of their district. They certainly did clean up, but where did they drive them? Into the residential districts and into respectable flats and apartments occupied by families with young daughters and sons."

"Of course this gave the women driven from the segregated district more graft protection and security, but what of the respectable young daughters and sons? Some of the mothers and fathers who read these lines can well answer that while great tears roll down their cheeks as they look in vain for the return of their loved ones as the New Year comes in."

"Let me say to you it is almost as important to keep your young son from the society of some fallen women as it is your daughter. She will entice him away from his work telling him she makes enough money for both and later take him from home, from the guidance of his mother and father, and into the society of idlers, gamblers and gangsters who walk about the streets during the day with nothing to do, while she earns the money that contributes to his downfall, and which eventually leads him first to the reformatory and then to the prison."

"Has it not by this time occurred to the vice societies' mission workers and the philanthropists that perhaps you look upon the wrong end? If you will look upon the wrong end of the vice, you will find very few, if any, unfortunate girls who began their evil life in a disorderly house or building occupied solely by fallen women. Other conditions and causes brought about their downfall. Segregation does not make for vice, but eliminates it, if properly regulated and controlled."

Keep Girls Off the Streets.

"If the girls of the city were compelled to stay off the streets, it would do away with all stealing, pickpocketing and drugging of men, and most important of all, disease would be checked almost instantly."

"Working girls are forced to go upon the street at night through absolute poverty and distress. How can she live on \$5 or \$6 a week if she has no home and has board, washing and car-

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fare to pay? And if she has a home and small sisters and brothers to help care for, perhaps a widowed mother, what can she do with the high cost of living to-day? She must go on the streets. She makes her start with the aid of some experienced girl who tells her, 'Walk behind me and watch and see what I do. See the sort of men I pick up. And this poor girl, made to the image and likeness of Almighty God, who beat the girls and take every penny from them nightly when they leave the resorts. Not you. We are the ones to help in the conviction of this vermin. We are not afraid to give testimony toward this end. Not afraid to protect and hide the poor victim until her master receives his sentence and afterward protect and help her to accumulate a little bank account that may be the means of sending her home reformed and welcomed by her parents."

"What have your white slave laws done toward the arrest and conviction of men living off the earnings of the outcasts of the city? Do you know more than one or two arrests followed by convictions a year of these vermin? No, and you never will without the help of the heads of disorderly houses. Your laws begin and end with the words 'if convicted.' We are the ones who can convict, not you. We know the men who beat the girls and take every penny from them nightly when they leave the resorts. Not you. We are the ones to help in the conviction of this vermin. We are not afraid to give testimony toward this end. Not afraid to protect and hide the poor victim until her master receives his sentence and afterward protect and help her to accumulate a little bank account that may be the means of sending her home reformed and welcomed by her parents."

"I recall an instance last June when I took \$19 from Rose to compel her to open a little bank account of her own on Monday, July 1, but I closed my house that day. I wanted to return Rose her money to go herself to the bank, but she dare not take it, as her master might search her and if he found it on her would kill her."

Feared to Leave Husband.

"I begged her to leave this man, trying in every way to impress upon her how I would help her and protect her. She said to me one day: 'I wish to God I could, but I would be killed; he had a lot of brothers and Italians cut you on each cheek if you have them arrested to make you a snafu!'"

"Would you send this poor little girl to a colony or a bureau of social hygiene to determine the sort of punishment she must receive? Does she deserve this sort of rescue? You ask why does she stay with such a man? Why does a wife stay with a drunken husband who beats and ill treats her? Because she is a woman, because she has got into a rut where she thinks she can't get out, and she stays and suffers with some one who comes to her side and virtually takes her away by force. Submission is the lot of all women. It has always been so in the history of the world, and I suppose always will be."

"Know Us as We Are."

"Oh, if you only knew us as we are! If you only knew the kindness we extend to one another even when we meet for the first time, your hearts would go out to us overflowing with pity and charity. The street girl will hand over her last dollar to the one without a cent, telling her, 'There, you take this if you have had nothing to eat. I can do better than you. I can make something.'"

"The girl driven from home when her condition is discovered is taken care of by all of us. Her little baby is bought for her, and she is watched over with care until she goes to the hospital and when she comes out taken care of again until she is strong, and if she does not recover collections are raised to bury that mother's daughter so she may not lie in potter's field."

"An instance of a woman who kept a house in Third-street and who herself lived in another part of the city in a small flat. A young girl had run away from her home in a country town and through some means found her way to this woman's house. She was taken to the small flat, fed, clothed and cared for until she entered the hospital where her baby was born. When she was discharged, not yet a year old, she was again taken care of by this woman until some malicious person informed the plain clothes men the girl was not of age and her little baby just a few weeks old should not be allowed in such bad company."

"In answer to the piteous appeals of this young mother, who was of age and whose every instinct was aroused, the protect her nameless little offspring, this woman took the mother and baby out of the city to elude the pursuit of these body snatchers, who were bent upon arresting the girl at first, and to the tracing of her record after arrest, as is their practice at times. This woman's home was left to the care of strangers and maids while she, out of the God given kindness and heart for this poor outcast, and bearing all expense, wandered from town to town, waiting until such time as the police could find out they had no case before she could return to her broken up home."

Charity of the Outcasts.

"There isn't a mother in this whole city to-day as she looks upon the face of her little helpless baby but cries out of the fulness of her heart, 'God bless and protect that woman!' I could tell you of hundreds of such cases, if I had the time, of real, real sympathy and charity by the outcasts of this city whom you Christian, respectable people know so little of."

"What of the inmate who is already in the disorderly house and has been for some time—the most sorrowful subject and object of all; what of her? Can you ask her to return to the starvation wage

that perhaps first drove her to the streets? Of course not. Can you find any position in this great city for the outcast where she can associate with respectable girls if she does not leave the disorderly house? You can, until some one recognizes her; no longer. She may go to another town or city and try to begin her life over again if she be not recognized. Her only chance is to save her earnings and make a start that will compel charitable remarks and attention. Her destiny lies with her God and herself."

In Arrest the Remedy?

"Is arrest the remedy? Perhaps she expiates her sin by filling the empty chair that the working girl has just escaped. Perhaps also she is expiating the sins of her forefathers. Is arresting her and sending her to jail going to save the worm-eaten constitution, the broken heart that she seeks the hidden closet and upstairs room to cry her bitter tears for the loved ones she no longer sees, to ask of the great Master above, 'Why am I why, was I selected for such a life? Do not your hearts and minds cry aloud, 'Leave her alone!'"

"Is there not some one in this great city merely strong and brave enough to stand up and say 'Something is a serious danger to the city. Something must be done for the outcasts! Is our cry for help to be passed by unheard? Your hearts and homes, yes, and pocketbooks, are thrown open always to the cry for help for sufferers from floods, fire and disasters. But what of us? Are we to be railroaded to station houses and jailed on perjured affidavits, hounded and abused with no voice to even speak for us? 'Help, oh, help us!' citizens of New York City!"

One woman who quoted from history to show that the ostracized class always existed and has been imprisoned, persecuted, hanged and lashed at the whipping post, yet has lived and flourished in all ages, wrote:

Where Do They Come From?

"Where do the girls come from and how do they fall? It is a serious question; it has puzzled the moral factors for centuries. I have, however, obtained the personal history and looked up the pedigrees of some hundreds of girls who have been a part of my household and have come immediately under my observation during the past fifteen years. Some were from the best families in this country, while others came from the ranks of the downtrodden and went into the life of professionals to better their conditions, not giving a thought as to the future or what it would bring to them."

"It was the present only, the ever living present that interested them. There are few women of the class that represent but have a personal history. 'I have had girls in my house who had royal blood in their veins. Many of them were descendants of the best families of Europe and America, while some of my most intimate lady friends who are engaged in the same line of business that I have devoted most of my energy and many years of my active life to were the daughters of well known clergymen of Chicago, Philadelphia, New York and Boston. Therefore I again reiterate that the army of the fallen is recruited from all ranks of society, including the daughters of the elect.'"

SULZER TO DEFINE ATTITUDE TO MURPHY

Will Consider Tammany Leader in New York County Patronage Only.

ALBANY, March 20.—Gov. Sulzer intends to make an announcement early next week as to his attitude toward Charles F. Murphy and the Tammany organization in the matter of patronage. It is not the intention of the Governor, his friends said to-night, to make a declaration of war on Mr. Murphy.

The Governor will say, however, that Mr. Murphy and the New York county organization will only be considered in connection with appointments in New York County. The organizations in Kings, Queens, Richmond, and even The Bronx, which will be a copy after January 1, will have the say in regard to patronage in these counties.

It is the present plan of the Governor to reiterate that he considers himself State leader and that in the distribution of patronage he will consult with the Democratic leaders in their respective districts, holding for himself the right to make personal appointments for important State offices.

Since the Governor returned to Albany he has been expecting that a statement might come from Mr. Murphy as a result of the communications which passed between Mr. Murphy and the Governor in New York on Tuesday.

STUCK GOING TO FIRST FIRE.

New Chemical Engine Dedicated by Gaynor Victim of Bronx Mud.

One of five new six ton combination chemical engines and hose carts put into service yesterday by Mayor Gaynor at City Hall got stuck in Bronx mud on its first call. Another engine was sent to replace it.

It was Engine 92, house on Morris avenue, between 168th and 169th streets. The neighborhood had been decorated with flags for the opening of the firehouse.

The band had played, Fire Commissioner Johnson and Borough President Miller had spoken and the engine was being inspected by the crowd when the jigger tapped an alarm.

The engine chugged into the street, around the 169th street corner and up grade to Nelson avenue. There the engine stuck. The blaze was in a tool house at 169th street and Lind avenue.

After two hours work Engine 92 was got back to the house, but the strain on some of her parts had been too much.

300 GIRLS STRIKE TO AID MEN.

Walk Out of Silk Mill to Show Their Sympathy.

The strike of 275 men in the Smith & Kauffman silk mill, 123d street, near Broadway, March 20, was followed by 300 girls by direction of the committee in charge of the strike of the silk workers in Paterson, N. J., was followed by a strike of 300 girls and employees yesterday in sympathy with the men.

When the girls quit they marched to headquarters for the strikers at 19 Manhattan street. They have been receiving from \$5 to \$14 a week pay.

AN INVESTOR'S CATECHISM

Q.—How can the safest investments be ascertained?
A.—Most easily by their interest returns, low rates evidencing safety and high rates, risk.
Q.—What are the safest investments?
A.—Government and Municipal Bonds, Railroad Bonds and Guaranteed Mortgages.

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DR. ELIOT, 79, MAY GO TO ST. JAMES'S

President Has Had Venerable
Educator Under Considera-
tion for Some Time.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—The impression in Washington to-night is that Charles W. Eliot, former president of Harvard University, is slated for the Court of St. James's. It is known that the President has had Dr. Eliot under serious consideration for several days.

Dr. Eliot could have had the Ambassadorship to Great Britain from President Taft three years ago, but he declined at that time, giving as his reasons his advanced age and his desire to spend his remaining days in the United States. There have been a good many stories in circulation, however, in regard to the offer of this important embassy by President Taft. One of these rumors was that Dr. Eliot was not pleased with the way in which the offer came to him and that this had something to do with his final decision. He was an enthusiastic supporter of Woodrow Wilson in the last campaign and it is understood that President Wilson's friends have hopes that Dr. Eliot may be prevailed upon to accept the post in the interest of the present Administration.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., March 20.—Charles W. Eliot, president emeritus of Harvard, observed his seventy-ninth birthday at his home to-day. The venerable educator arose early, but the inclemency of the weather prevented him from going out of doors for his usual walk. Dictating to his secretary occupied his morning hours. The afternoon and evening were spent in receiving friends and relatives who called to pay their respects. Many messages of congratulations and a great quantity of flowers were received.

Dr. Eliot refused to comment on a report that he had accepted the appointment as Ambassador to the Court of St. James's.

WOMAN'S TEARS MOVE JUDGE.

Zeiten May Keep Out of Prison and Wed His First Love.

Joseph Zeiten, a Russian, pleaded guilty before Judge Hand in the United States District Court yesterday of committing perjury when he was examined by the immigration authorities as to his relations with a woman he brought to this country as his wife on the steamship President Lincoln.

Judge Hand remanded Zeiten for sentence and ordered the deportation of the woman, who is a widow with two young children. Then, touched by the woman's tears, the Judge added that it seemed too bad to part two persons so deeply in love and suggested that if anybody could be found to marry the couple he might release Zeiten on suspended sentence and allow them to return to Russia as husband and wife.

Zeiten and Mrs. Clara Masel, the comely widow whom he called his wife, were neighbors for many years in the province of Kief, Russia. He said on the stand that he loved her before she married and after the death of her husband he asked her to become his wife. Objections were made by relatives on both sides, he said, on account of the difference in religion, he being a Jew and she a Catholic.

Unable to overcome these protests on the part of their families, Zeiten and Mrs. Masel set sail for America, bringing the two little girls, one 5 years old and the other 2. Zeiten said they intended to marry as soon as they reached here and he didn't think it was such a lie to tell the authorities that they were already married.

Zeiten said they had \$50, with which he, in his ignorance of living conditions here, hoped to set himself up in business. At Ellis Island both of the children fell sick with measles and one of them is not expected to live. Zeiten, who is a young man, says he owns property in Russia.

PENNSYLVANIA BANS FALSE ADS.

Publishing Misleading Information a Misdemeanor.

HARRISBURG, March 20.—Gov. Tener to-day signed the bill prohibiting the publication of false or misleading advertisements. The new law provides that whoever in a newspaper, periodical, circular or other publication shall knowingly disseminate any false statement concerning any merchandise, securities or services, or concerning the method or cost of production or manufacture of such merchandise, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment not exceeding sixty days or both.

The Governor signed also the resolution that the State's guests at the Gettysburg semi-centennial celebration next July shall include all Union soldiers, sailors, marines and reserves who enlisted during the war and are now residents of the State, and also all Confederate veterans now in Pennsylvania.

EGGED THE OIL PAINTINGS.

Thieves Turn Vandals at Finding Only \$30 Cash in House.

Piqued at finding only \$30 in cash as loot thieves yesterday afternoon destroyed valuable oil paintings and furnishings in the home of F. C. Howland, a Manhattan business man, who lives at 338 Theresa place, Silver Lake Heights, Staten Island.

After they had plastered the paintings with oil and the candles spilled two quarts of milk over the furniture and carpets.

Last night when the family returned home they found the parlor and all the valuable oil paintings practically ruined.

CHIEF SHROPE LOSES LOUIS ADOLF HOPE

Confidence of a Jersey Mar-
shal Betrayed by a
Prisoner.

ALSO LOSES HIS CHAIR

Poet in Town of Washington
Gives Details Until He
Becomes Fogbound.

WASHINGTON, N. J., March 20.—Into the town of Washington came Louis Adolf Hope. He had been drinking rye and gin and until him came Shrope, the marshal of this Jersey town, and quite a martial man, who'd issued orders that the drunk be martialled under ban.

"Of course the local jail is burnt," said Louis Adolf Hope, "but still I think that up my sleeve I've got the proper dope."

The local jail was down, you're right, and to the ground was burnt, and Louis A. had not a place toward which he could be bent.

But Mr. Shrope was a man acute and full of guile. He'd thought him of a place for Hope wherein he'd rest a while. He took Hope to his well known home and there he set him down. He said, "My friend, you should sit here where I've achieved renown. I'm marshal of this town, you know, and unto me's come fame. I've captured many a bandit bold and turned the wild man tame."

And so he took the Golden Rule unto his martial breast and walked it up the town awhile and then he thought it best that he should do as others do and put Hope to the test.

He said to Hope: "My drunken friend, you should go out and do some noble thing unto the end that others may do you. You should go out and not come back, relieve another's woe, if necessary hire a hack and give the town a show."

Said Hope: "I thank you, Mr. Chief. I will do all them things. I will be noble and I hope I drink Perlian springs."

So Mr. Hope, he sat him down into the Chief's best chair, he lolled around, he rolled his eyes as if he didn't care, but when he looked unto the seat on which he had been sat he said:

"Good gracious, where am I, where can I now be at?"

He looked around, he saw a gnu upon the mantelpiece, he said, "Good Heavens have I saw the foe of the police?"

He said unto himself, said he, "I should go out of here, I should his forth and buy a glass of spring beer."

Now, reader, if you've read this drivel, be merciful, please do. A back beer sign is not a coat nor yet a gloomy sign.

He went and took that polstered chair on which he had been sat; he took it right out through the door and left the Chief flat.

So if you ever do get pinched in Washington, beware. The Chief he loves his furniture and most of all his chair. For now they're building a new jail. You enter, unlike Hope, to take a chair will not avail—

COL. GARDNER SUED FOR LIBEL.

C. S. Andrews Wants \$100,000 for Alleged Defamation.

Ex-District Attorney Asa Bird Gardner was sued for \$100,000 damages in the Supreme Court yesterday for libel by Champe S. Andrews, former counsel for the County Medical Society, because of a letter written by Col. Gardner to Gov. Dix on March 21, 1911, as the result of which Gov. Dix gave an unconditional pardon to Dr. Edward E. Conrad, convicted of malpractice and sent to Sing Sing.

The fact that Col. Gardner had written the letter did not become known until after Gov. Sulzer took office and the correspondence bearing on convicts pardoned by Gov. Dix was made public. It then developed that Col. Gardner, as attorney for Conrad, asked to have Conrad's civil rights restored on the ground that he had been the victim of a conspiracy engineered by Andrews, as attorney for the County Medical Society; District Attorney Jerome and Edward Reardon, formerly one of Jerome's detectives.

The \$100,000 suit by Andrews is based on statements by him that Andrews engaged a woman to apply to Conrad for treatment and after she had gone to the physician's office Andrews and his alleged confederates burst into the room with drawn revolvers and Conrad and his nurse were arrested. Col. Gardner wrote that Reardon, chief fellow conspirator, while holding the doctor covered with his revolver, struck him with his clenched fist flush in the face."

Col. Gardner wrote that District Attorney Jerome admitted that he had entered into a conspiracy with Andrews to entrap Dr. Conrad, and he wrote that Andrews was "impelled by dishonest motives, did not act in good faith toward the Medical Society and employed every unfair means at his command to effect his ends." He alleged that in 1905 Andrews was arrested for extortion in a case in which Reardon was also involved, that the Medical Society requested him to resign, and that he was "frozen out" of office in the Elks Lodge for "good and sufficient reasons."

Andrews alleges that Col. Gardner pictured him as an "unprincipled, blackmailing, depraved scoundrel," and that the defendant said finally that Andrews had been forced to give up his office late in New York and move to a small town in the South as manager of an industrial plant owned by his brother.

FIREBUGS HIDE AND RUN.

Only Twelve of Thirty Warrants for Arson Served.

CHICAGO, March 20.—Three alleged members of Chicago's "arson trust," for whom warrants have been issued, have left the city, according to a report which reached the State's Attorney's office to-day. Fifteen others, wanted on charges of arson, cannot be found by detectives, who have been searching for them since Tuesday morning. They are said to be hiding until they make arrangements to give bond.

Warrants for thirty men were issued on Tuesday, but only twelve have been arrested.

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Just Arrived—A new Importation of English Neckwear specially priced at \$1.50

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U. S. TREASURER NOT LOST.

Ex-Gov. Burke Is in Chicago Visiting Friends.

CHICAGO, March 20.—John Burke, former Governor of North Dakota, the new

Treasurer of the United States, arrived in Chicago from Fargo, N. D., to-night and is visiting friends. He expects to leave for Washington to-morrow. An early report from Washington declared that Mr. Burke could not be found by his friends. A misunderstanding as to dates caused the report.

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